

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO EECSTATE WASHDC 4230

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1530

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PINT, TF, SO

SUBJECT: AHMEE DINI PLEDGES CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN LPAI AND FLCS

1. SUMMARY: AHMED DINI'S RECENT VISIT TO MOGADISCIO AND LPAI/ FLCS COMMUNIQUE RESULTING FROM VISIT REFLECT GSDR'S DETERMINATION TO KEEP OAR IN TROUBLED WATERS OF TFAI. SALAH NUR'S RECENT DEFECTION APPARENTLY CONVINCED GSDR THAT, IF IT WERE TO HAVE IMPACT IN PRE-INDPENDENCE PERIOD, MOGADISCIO WOULD HAVE TO KEEPTIGHTER REINS ON FLCS. COMMUNIQUE'S REJECTION OF POST-INDEPENDENCE FRENCH MILITARY PRESENCE COINCIDES WITH GSDR LINE ON SUBJECT:. FURTHERMORE, DEMAND FOR FLCS PARTICIPATION FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRANCE AND CALL FOR LPAI/FLCS CONSULTATIONS ON POSITIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE GIVES GSDR POSSIBLE VETO POWER DURING PERIOD OF MOVEMENT TO INDPENDENCE. ONE THING NOT CLEAR AT PRESENT IS STATUS OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AHMED DINI AND LPAI PRESIDENT HASSAN GULAI. QUESTION IS: DOES AHMED REALLY SPEAK FOR LPAI?

2. AHMED DINI, SECRETARY GENERAL OF AFRICAN PEOPPE'S INDEPENDENCE LEAGUE (LPAI), LEFT MOHADISCIO FOR DJIBOUTI SEPTEMBER
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19 AFTER VISIT WHICH, ACCORDING TO SONNA, LASTED SEVERAL

DAYS. VISIT, WHICH WAS NOT MADE PUBLIC UNTIL SONNA'S POST-DEPARTURE REPORT, RESULTED IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE INCLUDING FOLLOWING (VERBATIM) POINTS: (BEGIN QUOTE)

-- EVERY PARTY OF THE UNITED FRONT HAS TO RESPECT AND PERFORM THE COMMON POLITICAL PLATFORM;
-- THE REFUSAL OF FOREIGN BASES AND EVERY OTHER FORM OF FOREIGN TROOPS AND MILITARY INSTALLATIONS MUST BE CONFIRMED;
-- THE EFFECTIVE AND INDISPENSABLE PARTICIPATION OF FLCS TO THE PROCESS FTR THE ACCESSION TO INDEPENDENCE AND TO THE FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO SETTLE MODALITIES AND THE INDEPENDENCE DATE. THE FLCS PRESENCE WILL BE NEEDED DURING ALL THE TALKS CONCERNING THE TERRITORY'S FUTURE DETERMINATION (SIC); AND
-- IT IS A BASIC MATTER FOR THE PARTIES OF THE UNITED FRONT TO MEET DURING THE NEXT MONTH OF OCTOBER IN ORDER TO HARMONITE THEIR POSITIONS AND THEIR ACTION CONSIDERING THE QUICK EVOLUTION OF OUR COUNTRY DURING THIS PERIOD BEFORE THE INDEPENDENCE.
MOREOVER, THERE SHOULD BE FREQUENT CONSULTATIONS ON THE INITIATIVE OF ONE OF THE PARTY (SIC) BEFORE THE ADOPTION OF ANY POSITION OR ACT OF BASIC POLITICAL IMPORTANCE. (END QUOTE) FULL TEXT POUCHED ADDIS AND DEPARTMENT (AF/E).

3. COMMENT: IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT GSDR, THROUGH ITS MOUTHPIECE THE FLCS, IS ATTEMPTING TO GAIN A VETO POWER OVER ARRANGEMENTS LEADING TO TFAI INDEPENDENCE. DEFECTION OF FORMER FLCS CHAIRMAN SALAH NUR APPARENTLY AWAKENED GSDR TO FACT THAT ITS POWER TO INFLUENCE EVENTS IN PRE-INDEPENDENCE TFAI WOULD BE SERIOUSLY COMPROMISED UNLESS IT EXERTED LIGHTER CONTROL OVER FRONT.

4. WE NOTE THAT WITH RESPECT TO FRENCH MILITARY PRESENCE, COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE WOULD NOT BE SUHPORTED BY MANY MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENTARY "OPPOSITION" WITH WHOM LPAI COOPERATING IN INTERIM TFAI GOVERNMENT. EVEN HASSAN GULAI, AS LATE AS LAST APRIL, WAS EQUIVOCAL ON ISSUE.

5. REFERENCE TO "CONSULTATIONS" IN FINAL POINT OF
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COMMUNIQUE IS PROBABLY AIMED AT PREVENTING REPETITION OF HASSAN GULAI'S PERFORMANCE IN ADDIS LAST JUNE WHEN HE APPARENTLY AGREED WITH EPMG FORMULATION CONCERNING GUARANTEES FOR TFAI INDEPENDENCE AND ERRITORIAL IMTEGRITY BY NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. GSDR, OF COURSE, REGARDS THIS NOTION AS ANATHEMA AND, IT HOPES, IN "CONSULATION" WITH LPAI, THE FLCS COULD PREVENT LPAI FROM TAKING SUCH POSITIONS OF "BASIC POLITICAL IMPORTANCE" AS CONFLICT WITH GSDR LINE.

6. KEY QUESTION, AS YET UNANSWERED, IS PRESENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HASSAN AND AHMED DINIO HAS AHMED ECLIPSED HASSAN AS LEADER OF LPAI? DOES AHMED, IN FACT, SPEAK FOR THE ORGANIZATION? WITHOUT THE ANSWERS TO THESE, IT IS DIFFICULT TO ASSESS IN PRACTICAL TERMS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COMMUNIQUE.

7. ANY OBSERVATIONS EMBASSY ADDIS CAN PROVIDE ON ABOVE QUESTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS WOULD BE WELCOME.
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